Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Amended) A method for separating components of a sample, comprising:

obtaining a first separation of the sample components, wherein the first separation can be performed in the absence of an applied electric field;

using an electric field to obtain a second separation of the sample components within a plurality of substantially isolated channels;

obtaining an intensity-time data record from each of the isolated channels, each of the intensity-time data records ~~containing~~ comprising a first peak and a second peak ~~peaks~~; and

normalizing a migration time of ~~a~~ at least one of the first peaks ~~peak~~ with respect to ~~a~~ an average migration time of ~~at least~~ a plurality of the second peaks ~~peak~~ to correct for migration time differences between the isolated channels.

2. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the second peaks correspond ~~peak corresponds~~ to the presence of a reference sample component added to the other sample components before the second separation of the sample components.

3. (Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the second peaks have ~~peak has~~ a different fluorescence spectrum from other sample components and the different fluorescence spectrum is detected using a two-dimensional detector.

4. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein normalizing a migration time comprises determining a ratio of the migration time of the first peak and the average migration time of the second peaks ~~peak~~.

5. (Canceled).

6. (Amended) A method for separating components of a sample, comprising:

obtaining a first separation of the sample components, wherein the first separation can be performed in the absence of an applied electric field;

using an electric field to obtain a second separation of the sample components within a plurality of substantially isolated channels;

obtaining an intensity-time data record from each of the isolated volumes, each of the intensity-time data records ~~containing~~ comprising a first peak and a second peak ~~peaks~~; and

normalizing an intensity of ~~a~~ at least one of the first peaks ~~peak~~ with respect to ~~a~~ an average intensity of ~~at least~~ a plurality of the second peaks ~~peak~~ to correct for intensity differences between the isolated channels.

7. (Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein the second peaks correspond ~~peak corresponds~~ to the presence of a reference sample component added to the other sample components before the second separation of the sample components.

8. (Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the second peaks have ~~peak has~~ a different fluorescence spectrum from other sample components and the different fluorescence spectrum is detected using a two-dimensional detector.

9. (Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein normalizing an intensity comprises determining a ratio of the intensity of the first peak and the average intensities of the second peaks ~~peak~~.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the peak intensity is a peak area.

12. (Amended) A system for separating components of a sample, comprising:

a first separation component for obtaining a first separation of the sample components, wherein the first separation can be performed in the absence of an applied electric field;

a second separation component for electrophoretically separating each of the sample components, the second separation component comprising a plurality of substantially isolated separation channels; and

a processor configured to normalize a migration time of a first sample component ~~volume~~ within at least one of the separation channels with respect to ~~a~~ an average migration time of ~~at least~~ each of a plurality of respective second sample components, the respective sample components having been separated along different ones of the substantially isolated separation channels ~~volume~~ of the same separation channel to adjust for migration time differences between the isolated channels.

13. (Amended) The system of claim 12, wherein the presence of the second sample components are ~~volume is~~ indicated by peaks, each ~~a~~ peak having a fluorescence spectrum different from other sample components and the detector comprises a two dimensional detector configured to detect the different fluorescence spectra ~~spectrum~~.

14. (Original) The system of claim 12, further comprising an autosampler to collect fractions of eluant from the first separation component.

15. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein the processor is further configured to increase a rate of fraction collection at a predetermined time.

16. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the time for increasing the rate of fraction follows detection of a peak having a peak width that exceeds a threshold.

17. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the isolated separation channels comprises a substrate defining a plurality of channels therein.

18. (Amended) ~~An~~ A system for separating components of a sample, comprising:

a first separation component for obtaining a first separation of the sample components, wherein the first separation can be performed in the absence of an applied electric field;

an electrophoresis component for obtaining a second separation of the sample components within a plurality of substantially isolated channels;

a detector configured to obtaining an intensity-time data record from each of the isolated channels ~~volumes~~, each of the intensity-time data records containing a first peak and a second peak ~~peaks~~; and

a processor configured to normalize an intensity of a at least one of the first peaks ~~peak~~ with respect to an average intensity of ~~at least~~ a plurality of the second peaks ~~peak~~ to correct for intensity differences between the isolated channels.

19. (Amended) A method for separating components of a sample, comprising:

obtaining a first separation of the sample components, wherein the sample components are at least partially resolved on the basis of an isoelectric point of each component;

using an electric field to obtain a second separation of the sample components within a plurality of substantially isolated channels;

obtaining an intensity-time data record from each of the isolated channels, each of the intensity-time data records ~~containing~~ comprising a first peak and a second peak ~~peaks~~; and

normalizing a migration time of ~~a~~ at least one of the first peaks ~~peak~~ with respect to ~~a~~ an average migration time of ~~at least~~ a plurality of the second peaks ~~peak~~ to correct for migration time differences between the isolated channels.

20. (Amended) A method for separating components of a sample, comprising:

obtaining a first separation of the sample components into a first plurality of sample

volumes in the absence of an applied electric field;

~~simultaneously~~ obtaining an electrophoretic separation of sample components present in each of the first plurality of sample volumes, wherein sample components present in different sample volumes are separated simultaneously along ~~in~~ a respective one of a plurality of substantially isolated separation channels;

obtaining an intensity-time data record from each of the isolated channels, each of the intensity-time data records ~~containing~~ comprising a first peak and a second peak ~~peaks~~; and

normalizing a migration time of ~~a~~ at least one of the first peaks ~~peak~~ with respect to ~~a~~ an average migration time of ~~at least~~ a plurality of the second peaks ~~peak~~ to correct for migration time differences between the isolated channels.

21. (Amended) A method for separating components of a sample, comprising:

obtaining a first separation of the sample components into a first plurality of sample components in the absence of an applied electric field;

~~simultaneously~~ obtaining an electrophoretic separation of each of the first plurality of sample components to thereby form a plurality of substantially isolated volumes from each of said plurality of sample components, the electrophoretic separation of respective first sample components being simultaneous;

normalizing a migration time of at least one of the substantially isolated volumes with respect to ~~a~~ an average migration time of ~~at least~~ a plurality of second, ~~second~~ substantially isolated volumes ~~volume~~ to correct for migration time differences between the isolated volumes.

22. (Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein the second substantially isolated volumes correspond ~~volume corresponds~~ to peaks ~~a peak~~ indicative of the presence of a reference sample component added to the other sample components.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the reference sample component has a different fluorescence spectrum from other sample components and the different fluorescence spectrum is detected using a two-dimensional detector.

24. (Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein normalizing a migration time comprises determining a ratio of the migration time of the first substantially isolated volume and the average migration time of the peak.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein a plurality of reference samples are added to each fraction and normalizing a migration time comprises fitting a migration time of each reference sample to a polynomial function.

27. (Amended) A method for separating components of a sample, comprising:

obtaining a first separation of the sample components into a first plurality of sample components in the absence of an applied electric field;

~~simultaneously~~ obtaining an electrophoretic separation of each of the first plurality of sample components to thereby form a plurality of substantially isolated volumes from each of said plurality of sample components, the electrophoretic separation of respective first sample components being simultaneous; and

normalizing an intensity of at least one of the substantially isolated volumes with respect to ~~a~~ an average intensity of ~~at least~~ a plurality of second, ~~second~~ substantially isolated volumes ~~volume~~ to correct for intensity differences between the isolated volumes.

28. (New) A system for separating components of a sample, comprising:

a first separation component for obtaining a first separation of the sample components, wherein the first separation can be performed in the absence of an applied electric field;

a second separation component for electrophoretically separating each of the sample components, the second separation component comprising a plurality of substantially isolated separation channels;

an autosampler to collect fractions of eluant from the first separation component; and

a processor configured to normalize a migration time of a first sample component within at least one of the separation channels with respect to a migration time of at least a second sample component, to adjust for migration time differences between the isolated channels.